

# Maurice Hinchey NEWS

## 26<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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### RIVERS AND TRAILS PROJECTS GET FEDERAL HELP

WASHINGTON - U.S. Representative Maurice Hinchey (NY-26) today announced that the National Park Service will assist several locally led conservation efforts in New York's 26th Congressional District. The assistance comes through NPS's Rivers Trails & Conservation Assistance Program.

"The district I represent has a large number of excellent trails projects," said Hinchey. "The Park Service is at once recognizing that and providing important help in moving these projects along."

The Rivers & Trails program works with community groups and local and state governments to restore rivers, preserve open space, and develop trail and greenway networks. The program offers a national network of professionals who provide guidance on conservation and nature-based recreation planning to interested communities. While Rivers & Trails does not direct or fund conservation projects, it does provide a wealth of Park Service experience.

This fiscal year the Rivers & Trails Program will assist on the following projects:

- **Black Diamond Trail:** Working with the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, NPS will help with community involvement for the creation of a 15-mile rail trail between Ithaca and Trumansburg. NPS will help produce a newsletter and organize community trail-building events.
- **D & H Canal Trails:** Working with the Delaware & Hudson Transportation Heritage council and local communities, NPS will help to promote trails and historic resources along the 125-mile D & H Canal and its gravity railroads. NPS will release a guide brochure and help local groups to create towpath and rail-trail segments.
- **Hudson River Valley Greenway Trail:** NPS will work with the Hudson River Greenway Conservancy to convene a valley-wide council of local trails groups. NPS hopes to promote progress toward a continuous Hudson Valley Greenway trail by coordinating an end-to-end trail event through the valley.

Rivers & Trails will also provide consultation on a more limited basis to the **Woodstock Sawkill Trail**, the **Hudson River National Heritage Area Trails** and the **Binghamton Promenade**.

